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AMENDMENT

To: Examiner of the patent office

1. Identification of the International Application

PCT/JP2004/017118

2. Applicant

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4. Item to be Amended: Claims

5. Subject Matter of Amendment

The description "a plurality of base nodes" in claim 1 is replaced with "three or more base nodes". The description "said base node includes an assuming unit" in claim 1 is replaced with " said three or more base nodes include an assuming unit".

Claim 2 is canceled.

Change the description "according to claim 1 or claim 2" in claim 3 to "according to claim 1".

Change the description "according to claim 1 or claim 2" in claim 4 to "according to claim 1".

The description "belonging to said node as a base" in claim 40 is replaced with "belonging to each of three or more nodes as a base".

The description "belonging to said node as a base" in claim 66 is replaced with "belonging to each of three or more nodes as a base".

The description "belonging to said network interface card" in claim 89 is replaced with "belonging to said network interface card three or more nodes as a base".

6. List of Attached Documents

The amended claims (1, 3, 4, 40, 66 and 89)

CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A communication system in which three or more base nodes communicate through a plurality of communication media each formed of at least one relay node, wherein

 said three or more base nodes include an assuming unit which handles a plurality of ports connected to said plurality of communication media among ports belonging to said base node as one virtual port to assume said plurality of communication media to be one node.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Amended) The communication system according to claim 1, wherein said assuming unit includes a forwarding data base which registers, for one destination, a plurality of pieces of forwarding information for transferring a data frame transmitted from a certain transmission source to a predetermined destination.

4. (Amended) The communication system according to claim 1, wherein said assuming unit includes a port mapping table which correlates at least one port of said base node with one virtual port, and a forwarding data base which registers at least one said virtual port in

forwarding information for transferring a data frame transmitted from a certain transmission source to a predetermined destination.

40. (Amended) A node as a base communicating with each other through a plurality of communication media each formed of at least one relay node in a communication system, comprising an assuming unit which handles a plurality of ports connected to said plurality of communication media among ports belonging to each of three or more nodes as a base as one virtual port to assume said plurality of communication media to be one node.

66. (Amended) A communication control program executed on a node as a base communicating with each other through a plurality of communication media each formed of at least one relay node in a communication system, which comprises
an assuming function of assuming said plurality of communication media to be one node by handling a plurality of ports connected to said plurality of communication media among ports belonging to each of three or more nodes as a base as one virtual port.

89. (Amended) A computer including a network interface card having the function of communicating with each other through a plurality of communication media each formed of at least one relay node in a communication system, wherein

said network interface card includes an assuming unit which handles a plurality of ports connected to said plurality of communication media among ports belonging to said network interface card three or more nodes as a base as one virtual port to assume said plurality of communication media to be one node.